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RECIPIENT: Examiner John Frink

Re: Ser. No. 10/726,724

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Dear Examiner Frick;

Attached are a proposed amendment to claim 1 and a memo of arguments.

Please call me and let me know when an interview can be scheduled.

Thank you for your courtesy and cooperation in this matter.



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OA 1. - 7. (Office Action paragraph numbers) Not Supported by Spec

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"establishing a topology to address each of a plurality of system topology
criteria"

Examples of a "criterion" are: (1) "power curve" i.e., more connections to fewer of
the agents, so as to make the system relatively robust against random agent (node)
failure. (2) A "bell (Gaussian) curve", i.e. random type so that the system will be
more robust against attack on individual agents (nodes).

Each criterion has to have a topology.

See paragraph beginning at pg 8, line 13 of the spec. Current system topology is
being compared against the topology of a criterion.. Also see page 4 second
paragraph.

35 USC §101 Rejection

The claims to be amended to recite "A computer readable storage medium, etc

8. Etc . Rejection based on Kennedy et al US 2004/0218582.

Claim 1 as amended recites that

- a. information is obtained of the current topology of the system as well as
- b. information of how the current topology compares to the topology of at least
one of the established system criteria.
- c. Based upon this information, a recommendation is made of how their inter-agent
relationships of the agents have to be modified is made to those of the agents that

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have to modify their existing inter-agent relationships in order to achieve a new system topology that more closely matches the topology corresponding to a selected one of the plurality of established criterions.

(See Fig.1 and page 8 of the spec)

Kennedy

[0011] a method is used such that the routes of the network are discovered and used, route failure is predicted, and maintenance is performed on the network based upon the predicted route failure.

The "discovery" is how to get from Sn to Dn. See Kennedy [0030]. line 9 of paragraph [0031] : "Future network dynamics and/or topology are predicted (block 82), and routes including partial routes or complete routes, are discovered (block 84) along predicted future – needed routes in the network based upon the predicted future – network dynamics and/or topology." (Emphasis added). Inter -node relationships are not really considered. A node near Sn does not check its relationship to a node near Dn.

[0039-0040] of Kennedy is relied on for the claimed feature of "obtaining information". Kennedy does not show the two parts of the information obtained as per a. and b. above

[0090-0109] of Kennedy is relied on for the step of comparing the obtained topology information to the topology of at least one of the plurality of established criterions. A fair reading of this portion of the Kennedy specification is that it deals with the repair of broken nodes and the prediction of how the routes can be substituted to keep a reliable communication path between points Sn and Dn.

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1. (Currently Amended) In a data processing system, a method to tune a topology of relationships between a plurality of self-organizing software agents, comprising:

establishing a topology ~~to address~~ for each of a plurality of system topology criterions;

obtaining information including inter-agent relationship of each of said plurality of agents relative to each of the other of said plurality of agents in a manner that is descriptive of the current system topology of inter- agent relationships, and information of the current system topology as compared to at least one of said plurality of established system topology criterions; and

based at least in part on the obtained information ~~and~~ making at least one recommendation ~~to at least one of the plurality of agents that is intended of~~ change of inter-agent relationships to those of the plurality of agents that would have to modify their inter-agent relationships to achieve a new system topology that the topology of the at least one of the plurality of agents to more closely match matches the topology of a selected one of the plurality of established topology criterions.

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